would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very serious problem. A railway line connects the Mansi Junction of Bihar to the Saharasa junction and this line dates back to the time of the Britishers. Many trains run on this line. The train which should run at a speed of 40 kilometre per hour runs at a speed of merely 10–15 kilometres in this area. Every year the Railway Division undertakes repair operations. This being a border area I would like the Railway Ministry to include the proposal for changing the metre gauge line between Mansi Junction and Saharasa Junction into broad gauge in this year's Railway Budget so that the inconvenience to crores of people could be removed.

[*English*]

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the news item of *Hindustan Times* today, which says: 'Lanka fears LTTE–Naval Instruction! The fears of Sri Lankan Naval Vice Admiral Shri Ciancy Fernando are unfounded and his statement is misleading our Indian newsmen. The Indo–Sri Lanka Accord of 1974 is quite clear that Indian fishermen have every right to catch fish near Katchatheevu and dry their nets and catches at Katchatheevu. But our fishermen are often attacked and harassed when they fish near Katchatheevu. Shri Ciancy Fernando is giving bogus news saying that the Sri Lankan Navy refrained from taking action against genuine Indian fishermen despite the fact that they violate the international law every time when they fish in Sri Lankan territorial waters. But, this is not the fact. He further says that about 400 fishing trawlers are found in Palk Strait on April 7. There cannot be 400 trawlers putting Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu together. So, this is a bogus news given by the Vice–Admiral of Sri Lanka against our fishermen.

His further statement is that India has been doing a yeoman's service in containing the LTTE and according to Indian Intelligence LTTE traffic has virtually ended. So, it is quite clear that the Vice–Admiral's fear is unfounded.

So, the misleading news about our fishermen should be rectified by the Sri Lankan Government.

I want our Government to clarify the truth to the Sri Lankan Government and to protect the interests of our fishermen who are being often harassed by Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Army.

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise this important matter during Zero Hour.

At present, in our country lot of educated people have been suffering with unemployment. In this situation, it is not possible for the Government to provide employment for all these people. Hence only the small–scale industries can provide better employment to these people. Also there is good scope to earn foreign exchange through these smallscale industries. This sector also meets many needs of the people.

Hence I request you to bring out a Central Government Order to the 1894 Land Acquisition Act so as to enable the employed to acquire land locally in either village areas or town areas and start their own small–scale industries, cottage and village industries through which they can provide employment for themselves and they can provide employment for others also and thus improve the backward areas.

Through you, I request the Central Government to take necessary immediate action in the aforesaid case.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum):